



ASOCIACIÓN NACIONAL DE FABRICANTES DE CHOCOLATES, DULCES Y SIMILARES, A.C.

March 7, 2006

To Director Jennie Butler
Food and Drug Administration
Division of Dockets Management
Office of Management Programs
Office of Management

Dear Ms Butler

On behalf of the Mexican National Manufacture Association of Chocolate, Candy and Similar Products, we really appreciate the opportunity to share our comments regarding the Draft Guidance "Lead in Candy Likely To Be Consumed Frequently by Small Children: Recommended Maximum Level and Enforcement Policy".

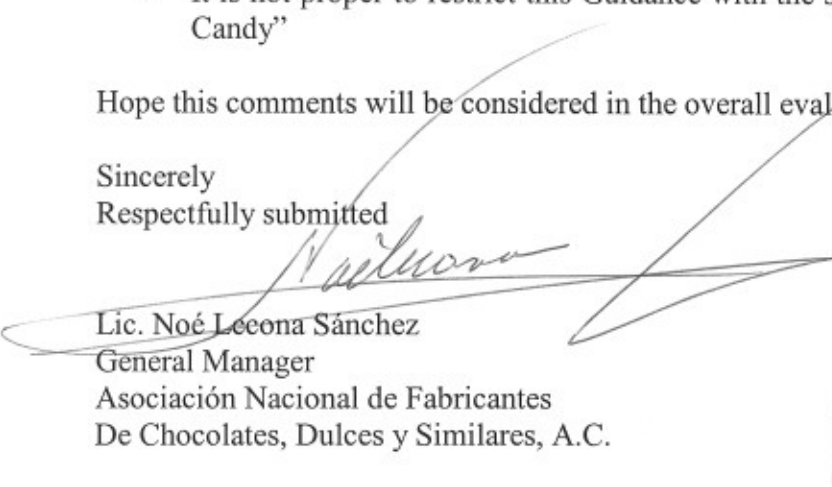
Our Association is aware of the importance of lead exposure to children. The Guidance proposes a new maximum level of 0.1 ppm which is quite different from the 0.5 ppm previously recommended. It is clear that some of the companies that currently export to the United States have made the investment to comply with this limit; however, there are other manufacturers that are still in the process and effort of reaching this limit. Based on this we would like to understand what was the rational for a drastic reduction from 0.5 ppm to 0.1 ppm instead of e.g. 0.3 ppm which could be a more realistic level to be accomplished for manufacturers of candy with chili and tamarind pulp.

Also we believe that Draft Guidance should not use the specific description and denomination of "Mexican Style candy" for the following reasons:

- It discriminates against Mexican candy. People who read the Guidance may relate it only to product from Mexico.
- These kinds of products are currently manufactured and exported in other countries such as Korea, China and Guatemala.
- It is not proper to restrict this Guidance with the specification of "Mexican Style Candy"

Hope this comments will be considered in the overall evaluation of the Guidance.

Sincerely
Respectfully submitted


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